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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

19 October 1950

DAILY KOREAN SUMMARY

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I. Military SituationHighlights

The US 1st Cavalry Division entered the North Korean capital of Pyongyang after a drive from the south against stubborn enemy resistance. Three hours later the ROK 1st Division reached Pyongyang from the east. Initial enemy resistance in the city appears to be crumbling. Other UN forces advanced generally in all sectors.

Ground

Elements of the US 1st Cavalry Division advanced against armor-supported enemy troops and entered Pyongyang from the south; elements of the ROK 1st Division reached that city shortly from the east. Although there was some initial resistance from the city's defenders, their will to resist appears to be weakening. On the left flank, the 19th Regiment of the US 24th Division moved forward from Chaeryong against negligible opposition to the south bank of the Taedong River, opposite Chinnampo. The UK 27th Brigade is closing in on Kyomipo about 20 miles south of the North Korean capital. The ROK 7th Division advanced to Sokchu, 20 miles east of Pyongyang. In the central area, the ROK 6th Division, after entering Yangdok, turned north for an advance of 24 miles; the ROK 8th Division continued to advance west of Yangdok. The ROK Capital and 3rd Divisions maintained their positions at Hamhung and Wonsan on the east coast.

Navy

One mine-sweeper was sunk during mine-sweeping operations near Wonsan. UN patrols on the west coast were maintained. Carrier aircraft continued to pound enemy communication facilities in northeast Korea.

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Air

Improved weather permitted UN aircraft to fly 489 effective sorties, including 305 combat. Close ground support was tripled, with 180 sorties flown in support of the Pyongyang-bound US I Corps and ROK forces. Bombers attacked North Korean lines of communication and supply areas, with a major effort on the Namgung-ni ammunition storage area.

II. General Situation

In a summary report on economic developments in the Seoul area, Embassy Seoul states that President Rhee has decided to delay implementation of the land reform law in South Korea that was in an advanced stage at the time of the North Korean invasion. The Mission believes that this proposed reversal in farm land policy reflects recent pressure by the landlord class to nullify the prewar trend toward land reform in order to maintain their traditional controlling position in Korean political and economic life.

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